

CLACTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1943.

HEALTH
LIBRARY

To/
The Chairman and Members of the
Clacton Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my twenty-third Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the District during the year 1943.

As with previous war-time reports, it contains only a few essential statistics, figures for local population and those supplied by the Registrar General - which would enable local populations to be reconstructed - being excluded by request of the Ministry of Health.

The health of the District has remained good. Infectious Disease has not been unduly high, though there was an increase on the exceptionally low figures for the two previous years. There were no circumstances seriously affecting the health of the inhabitants. Nearly half the population still remain evacuated.

The Public Health staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health, two Sanitary Inspectors, one Health Visitor and two female clerks (one temporary).

Clacton has no slums, and the general standard of cleanliness is high; the attention of the Health Visitor was directed specially to cleanliness and infestation, as the result of Circular 2813, but no special measures were found to be necessary.

Immunisation against Diphtheria has been carried out as in previous years, but there has been a certain amount of falling-off in the numbers availing themselves of the facilities offered.

General Statistics.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate.	165.	84.	81.
Illegitimate.	24.	15.	9.
Stillbirths.	3.	2.	1.
 <u>Deaths.</u>	 162.	 89.	 73.

General Statistics - continued.

Puerperal Deaths.

1) Puerperal Sepsis.	Nil.
2) Other Puerperal Causes.	Nil.

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age :-

All Infants per 1,000 live births	5.3
Legitimate.....	5.3
Illegitimate	Nil

Deaths from Cancer	32
Deaths from Measles	Nil
Deaths from Whooping-cough	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	Nil

	1 Day.	1 Wk.	1 Mth.	3 Mths.	6-12 Mths.
Prematurity.	1	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-
Digestive Disturbances.	-	-	-	-	-
<hr/>					
	1.	-	-	-	-
<hr/>					

Table of the Causes of Death.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Diphtheria.	1.	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis.	3.	3.
Influenza.	3.	1.
Acute Encephalitis.	1.	-
Cancer.	12.	20.
Diabetes.	1.	1.
Intra-cranial Vascular Disease.	8.	12.
Heart Disease.	32.	14.
Other Vascular Diseases.	2.	11.
Bronchitis.	6.	2.
Pneumonia.	3.	1.
Ulcer of the stomach.	1.	-
Nephritis.	-	1.
Premature Birth.	-	1.
Suicide.	1.	-
Violent Deaths.	3.	3.
All other causes.	12.	11.

Ages at death from all causes.

Under 1 year	1
1 year and under 2 years	2
2 years " " 5 "	3
5 " " " 15 "	1
15 " " " 25 "	2
25 " " " 35 "	6
35 " " " 45 "	14
45 " " " 55 "	25
55 " " " 65 "	107
65 " and upwards	

Total - 161.

Infectious Diseases
1943.

Disease.	Total Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	23.	22.	-
Measles.	21.	-	-
Diphtheria.	2.	2.	1.
Paratyphoid.	1.	1.	-
Erysipelas.	1.	-	-
Pneumonia.	-	-	4.

- While Measles shows a fall, as compared with 1942, we had 23 cases of Scarlet Fever and 2 of Diphtheria, as compared with none.

Tuberculosis
1943.

New Cases.		Deaths.					
Age.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respy.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Periods.							
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	1.	3.	-	-	-	-
15.	-	2.	-	-	-	-	-
25.	2.	4.	-	-	-	-	-
35.	2.	4.	-	-	1.	-	-
45.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55.	-	-	-	1.	1.	-	-
65 and							
Upwards.	-	-	-	-	2.	1.	-
	4.	11.	3.	-	3.	3.	-

Tuberculosis - 1943 - continued.

Of the new cases of Tuberculosis, 8 had treatment in hospital or sanatorium, 2 left the District and 1 died. There were four un-notified Tuberculosis deaths.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of the year 1943 was :-

A. Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

(1) Male - 11.
(2) Female - 22.

B. Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

(1) Male - 9.
(2) Female - 7.

Total T.B. Cases-49.

No action was required under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, or under section 172 of the Public Health Act.

No action was required in respect of blind persons.

Immunisation

During the year - 189 children under 15 years of age were completely immunised against Diphtheria, making a total of 1,500 immunised since inoculation was started.

At the end of 1943 it was estimated that about 67% of the children under 5 years and 50% of those between 5 and 15 years had been immunised.

These figures are not by any means satisfactory; there has been a considerable falling-off lately.

Two persons were innoculated against Typhoid.

Sewerage and Drainage.

As in previous War years, there has been little new work done under this heading.

Water Supply.

During the year 233,471,000 gallons of water have been supplied by the Clacton Water Department, representing an increase of 17.43 per cent on the output of the previous year.

Water Supply - continued.

The water was obtained from :-

Tendring Hundred Waterworks Co. - 146,021,000 Gallons.
Great Bentley Pumping Station. - 87,450,000 Gallons.

The supply was maintained at constant pressure throughout the year, and samples taken regularly showed that it was pure and wholesome and of a high degree of bacterial purity.

The great majority of the houses and people in Clacton are supplied by water laid on in the house, and standpipes exist in respect of a few cottages on the outskirts, and a section of the Jaywick Estate; which, however, during the War has not been in civilian occupation; though from time to time it has been occupied by the Military.

Port Sanitation.

No action has been required under this heading during the year.

Work of the Sanitary Department.

The following is a synopsis of the principal work carried out by the Sanitary Department during the year. -

Sanitary Administration

Special Visits	2,943.
Special Visits re Salvage	743.
Special Visits re Nuisance	375.
Re-Inspections	428.
Interviews with Owners, etc	106.
Piggeries Inspected	141.
Back Yard Inspections	216.
Stable Inspections	11.
Chicken-run Inspections	12.
Smoke Observations	13.
Factory Inspections	43.
Bakehouse Inspections	53.
Shop Inspections re - Sanitary Accomodation	23.
Fish Friers	10.
Air Raid Shelter Inspections	297.
Hairdressers	21.
Cinema Inspections	10.
Licensed Victuallers	7.
Conveniences (Public)	208.
Inspections re Rat Destruction	371.
Caravan Inspections	1.

Preliminary Notices Served	114.
Statutory Notices Served	6.

Sanitary Administration
- continued -

Improvements following Preliminary Notices ..	304.
Improvements following Statutory Notices	4.
Improvements without Notice	103.
Total Improvements	411.

Housing Act, 1936.

Re-Inspections of Repairs, etc	424.
Repairs completed	49.
Special Inspections re Timber (Flooring) ..	30.
Special Inspections re Window Glass	22.

Disinfections.

24 Rooms, Bedding, etc. - Re: Infectious Disease.

Steam Disinfection.

13 Lots of Bedding, clothing, etc - Military.
4 " " " " " - Civilian.

Fumigation.

11 - Re:- Vermin.
4 - Re:- Moths.

Milk and Dairies Orders.

13 Samples of Accredited Milk were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination. - Of these 5 samples proved to be unsatisfactory in as much as they gave positive B.Coli results.

14 Samples of Ordinary Milk were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination as to the general cleanliness and presence, or otherwise, B.Coli results. - Of these 7 proved to be unsatisfactory.

1 Sample of Pasteurised Milk was submitted for examination. Result - Satisfactory.

4 Samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk was submitted for examination. - Of these one sample of T.T. Milk failed to comply with the prescribed conditions.

Water Analysis and Examination.

Samples taken :- / continued overleaf.

Water Analysis - continued.

Samples taken :-

- 11 From Great Bentley Pumping Station.
- 14 From Town Supply.

All samples were found to be wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Meat and Food Inspection.

The following visits were made :-

Slaughter House	1.
Butchers and Food Shops	179.
Restaurants	30.
Hawker's Premises	--
Re: Food Decontam.(Demonstrations)	3.
Re: Food Decontam.(Inspections)	20.

- 12 Pigs Offal, killed locally, inspected.

The following were found to be unfit for human consumption :-

Tins of Meat	119.
" " Milk	701.
" " Fish	64.
" " Beans	42.
" " Other Vegetables	14.
" " Fruit	44.
" " Soup	18.
" " Biscuits	16 lbs.
Chocolate	16 "
Bacon	3 "
Margarine	8 "
Sugar	360 "
Cheese	1 lb.

Rollled Oats .. 5 Tons. 127 lbs.

A quantity of mixed foodstuffs, - Flour, Oatmeal, Sugar, Margarine, etc., were removed from shops, following damage by blast during an air raid.

Owing to the evacuation of the civil population the amount of refuse collected and disposed of was considerably reduced. Refuse from Military establishments and other billets is received at the Disposal Depot.

Salvage work has been intensified, with satisfactory results.

Work of the Sanitary Dept. - continued.

Collection is by rear loading mechanical vehicles and a horsewagon.

Disposal is by incineration and controlled tipping.

During the year 2,022 tons were dealt with at a net cost of - £576. Os. Od.

Income from Trade Refuse amounted to - £30.

Income from the sale of Salvaged Materials, Clinker, etc., was - £733. Os. Od.
- Waste Paper- £700. Os. Od.

Maternity and Child Welfare

The total number of births notified during the year was - 172, (88 Male and 84 Female), an increase of 60 on the year 1942. Medical practitioners notified 100, and Midwives - 72.

There are 6 Midwives on the Register, of whom 3 are employed by the Essex County Nursing Association.

Two stillbirths were notified during the year.

Analysis of Midwifery and Maternity.

	<u>Mid-</u> <u>wifery.</u>	<u>Mater-</u> <u>nity.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. <u>Domiciliary.</u>			
a) District Nurses.	70.	45.	115.
b) Independant Midwives.	-	-	-
c) Private trained women.	-	1.	1.
d) Untrained women.	-	-	-
2) <u>Maternity Homes & Hospitals.</u>			
a) Ellisdene Nursing Home.	-	56.	56.
b) St. Mary's Hospital, Colchester.			5.
c) Heath Hospital, Tendring.	-		6.
d) Improvised Maternity Homes (Ministry of Health)	-		5.

Homes and Hospitals (b), (c) and (d) are outside the District.

Health Visiting.

The number of visits paid by the Health Visitor to children under five years was - 898. She also paid 37 visits as Infant Life Protection Visitor to 3 homes.

Maternity and Child Welfare - continued.

Orthopaedics.

29 Children received treatment for various Orthopaedic conditions during the year; hospital treatment and various surgical appliances being given. They made 109 attendances.

Ultra-violet Ray Treatment.

This was given to 45 children under 5 years of age, and 40 school children for various defects.

Dental Treatment.

30 expectant mothers, 8 women and 11 children under 5 years received dental treatment during the year.

Eye Clinics.

15 children under five years attended; of four new cases 2 were supplied with glasses.

Ante-natal Clinics.

There were 217 expectant mothers on the Register during the year and they made 555 attendances at the ante-natal clinics and 316 attendances at the ante-natal classes. 15 made post-natal attendances.

Infant Clinics.

These were held as usual on Thursdays throughout the year, the attendances of children under 5 years of age being - 5,593.

Food and Medicines.

Infant foods, etc., Cod-liver oil, virol, etc., were sold at cost price as in previous years.

Under the scheme of the Ministry of Food the following have been distributed :-

National Dried Milk	1,152 Tins.
Cod-liver oil	1,589 Bottles.
Orange Juice	8,423 Bottles.
Cod-liver oil capsules	108.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Sgd)

W. A. MILNE.

Medical Officer of Health.

